

Unit 1

The March to civilization

1.1- In Search of Our Ancestors



Examining History: Prehistory

- 💧 When did human history begin?????
- 💧 **Prehistory** is the period before written history

In Search of Our Ancestors

💧 Massive development of humans over years in 3 major groups:

- 1) Australopithecus (4 million years ago)
- 2) Homo Erectus (1.7 million years ago)
- 3) Homo Sapien (400 000 years ago)

In Search of our Ancestors

1. Australopithecus

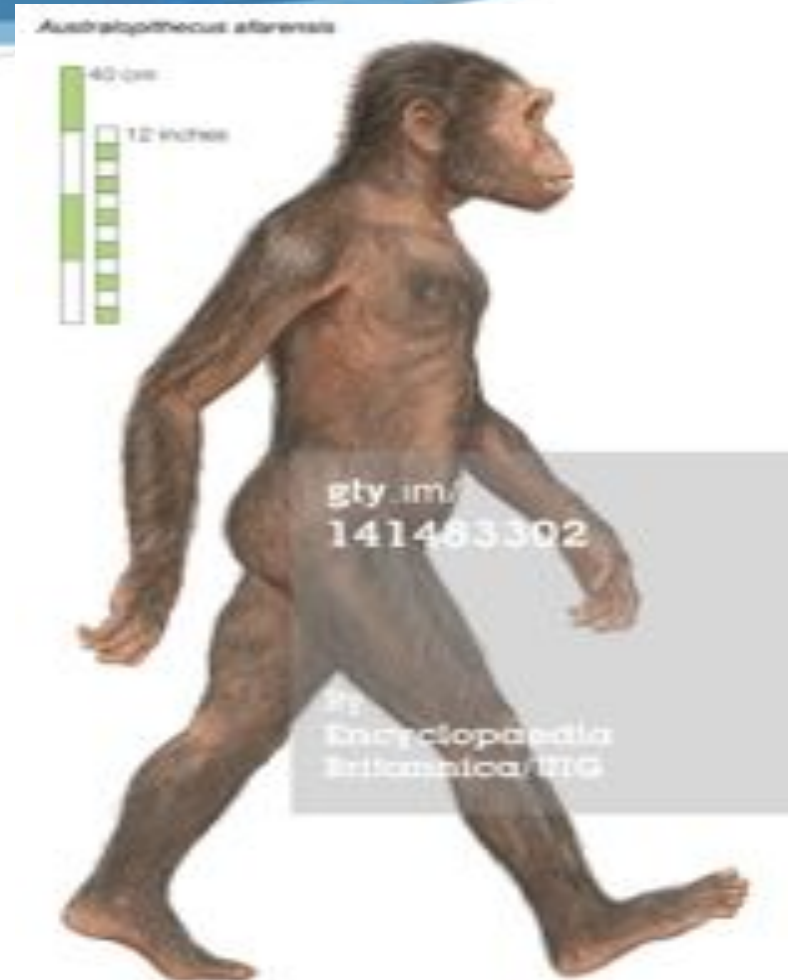
- ◆ Earliest **hominid biped** (primate walking upright on **two feet**) whom humans can trace their ancestry lived about 4 million years ago.
- ◆ Called **Australopithecus**

In Search of our Ancestors

1. Australopithecus



Australopithecus africanus



Australopithecus afarensis

In Search of our Ancestors

1. Australopithecus

- ◆ The brains of most species of *Australopithecus* were roughly 35% of the size of that of a modern human brain.
- ◆ Usually standing between 1.2 to 1.4 m (3 ft 10 in to 4 ft 7 in) tall
- ◆ Australopithecus there is a considerable degree of sexual dimorphism

In Search of our Ancestors

1. Australopithecus

- Males can be up to 50% larger than females



In Search of our Ancestors

1. Australopithecus

- Built shelters of braches and collected bird eggs and wild berries for food; hunted wild pigs
- No clothes
- Did not know how to use fire

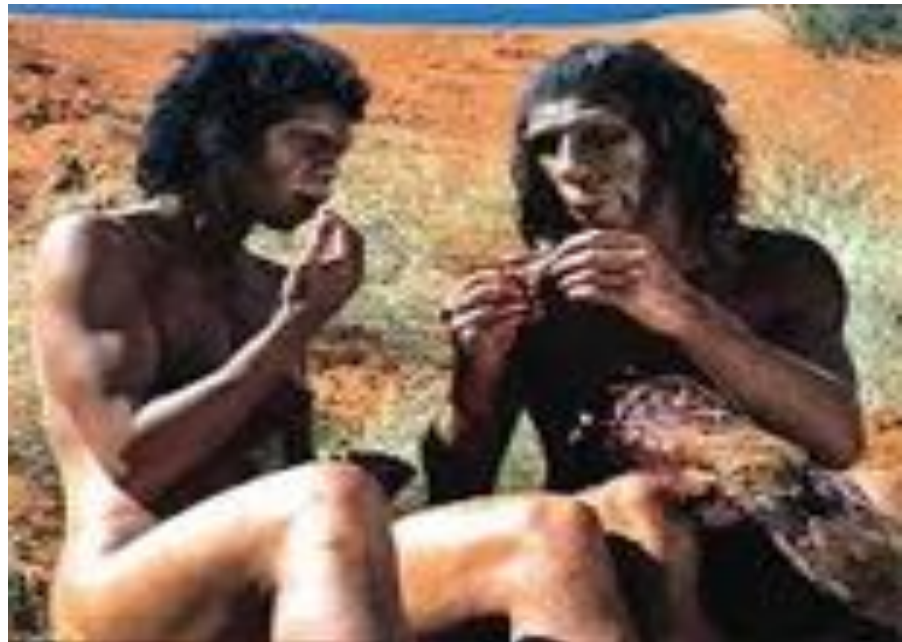
In Search of our Ancestors

2. Homo Erectus

- 1.7 Million years ago Australopithecus is replaced by a new species.....

- Homo Erectus**

“upright man”



In Search of our Ancestors

2. Homo Erectus

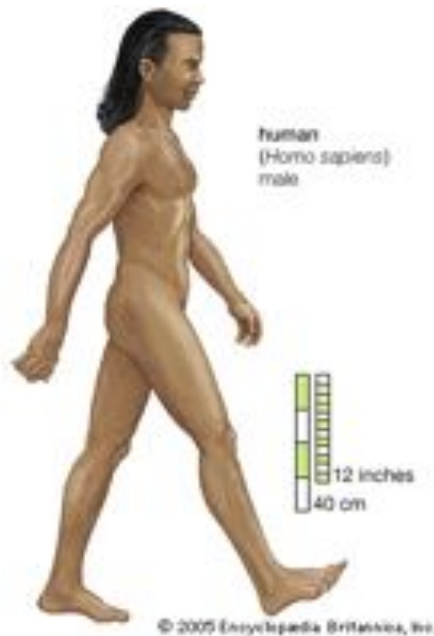
- ♦ Skulls- humans had long, flat and sharply angled at back (between ape and human head)
- ♦ Charred animals bones found = they used fire to cook



In Search of our Ancestors

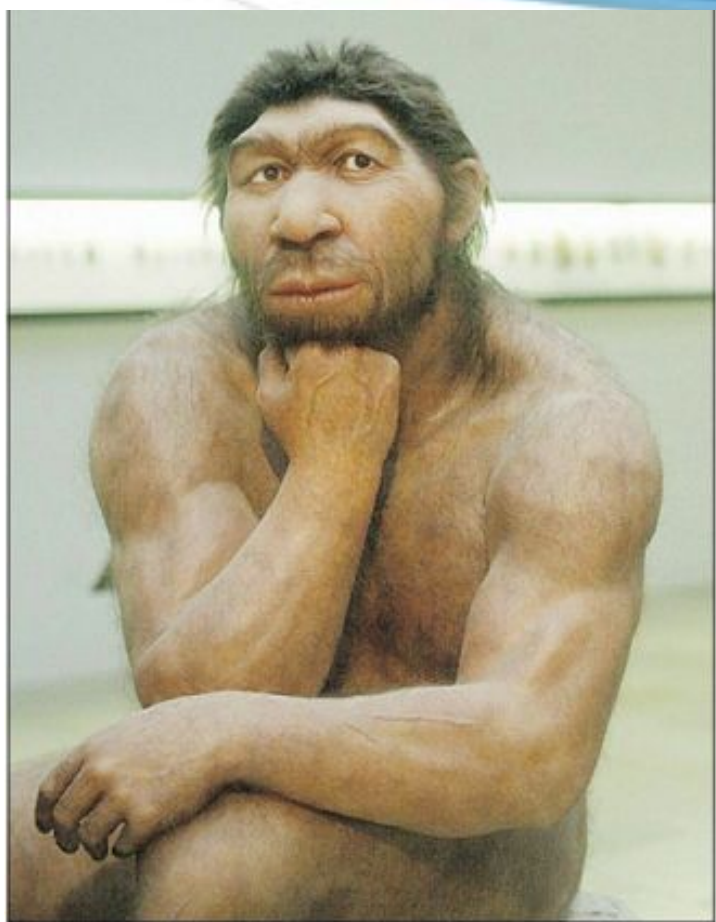
3. Homo Sapiens

- 400 000 years ago Homo Erectus evolved once again into **Homo Sapiens** (“wise man)



In Search of our Ancestors

- 100 000 years ago, humans had settled in three distinct populations (all of which were homo sapiens).
- In Europe and the Near East there were people called *Homo Sapiens Neanderthals* or *Neanderthals*.



In Search of our Ancestors

- ◆ Africa was populated by anatomically modern humans called *Homo Sapiens Sapiens*
- ◆ Asia there was a third group, but too few fossils to make a clear definition
- ◆ 50 000 years ago, anatomically modern Africans began to invade Europe

In Search of our Ancestors

- Initially thought evolution, but Scientists are quite certain that it was an invasion
- This led to extinction of the Neanderthals.



Australopithecus robustus

Homo habilis

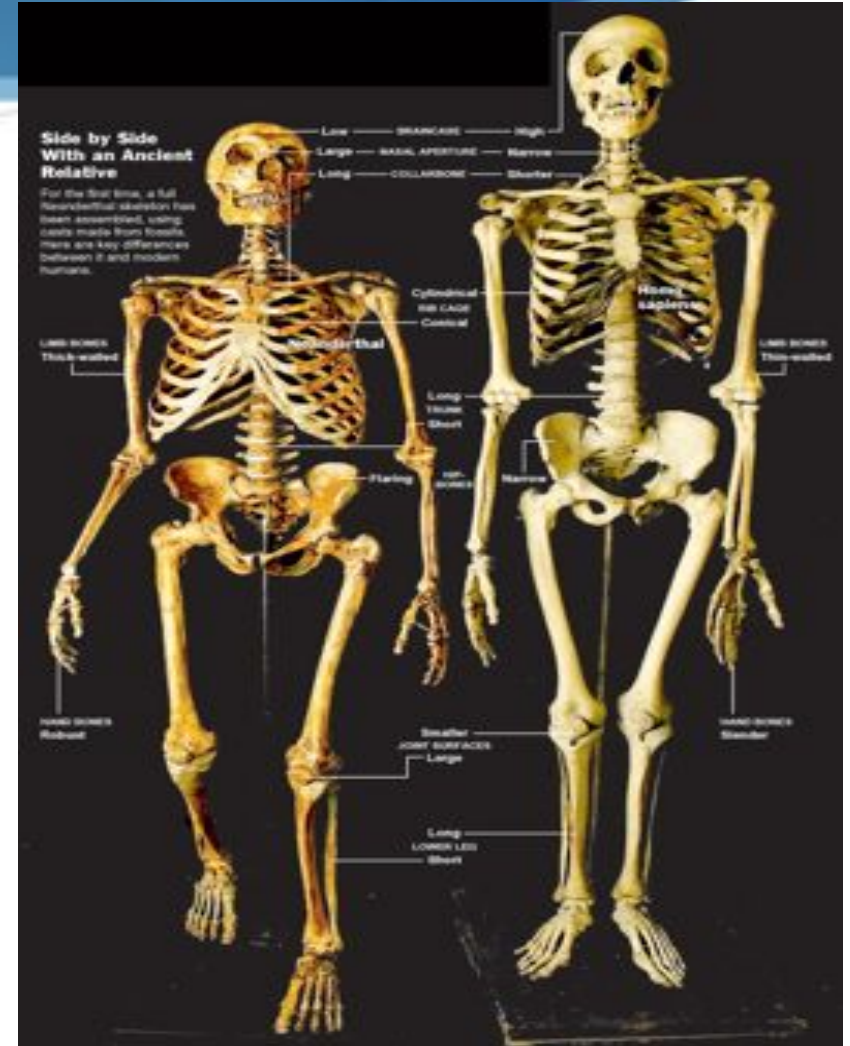
Homo erectus

Homo sapiens neanderthalensis

Homo sapiens sapiens

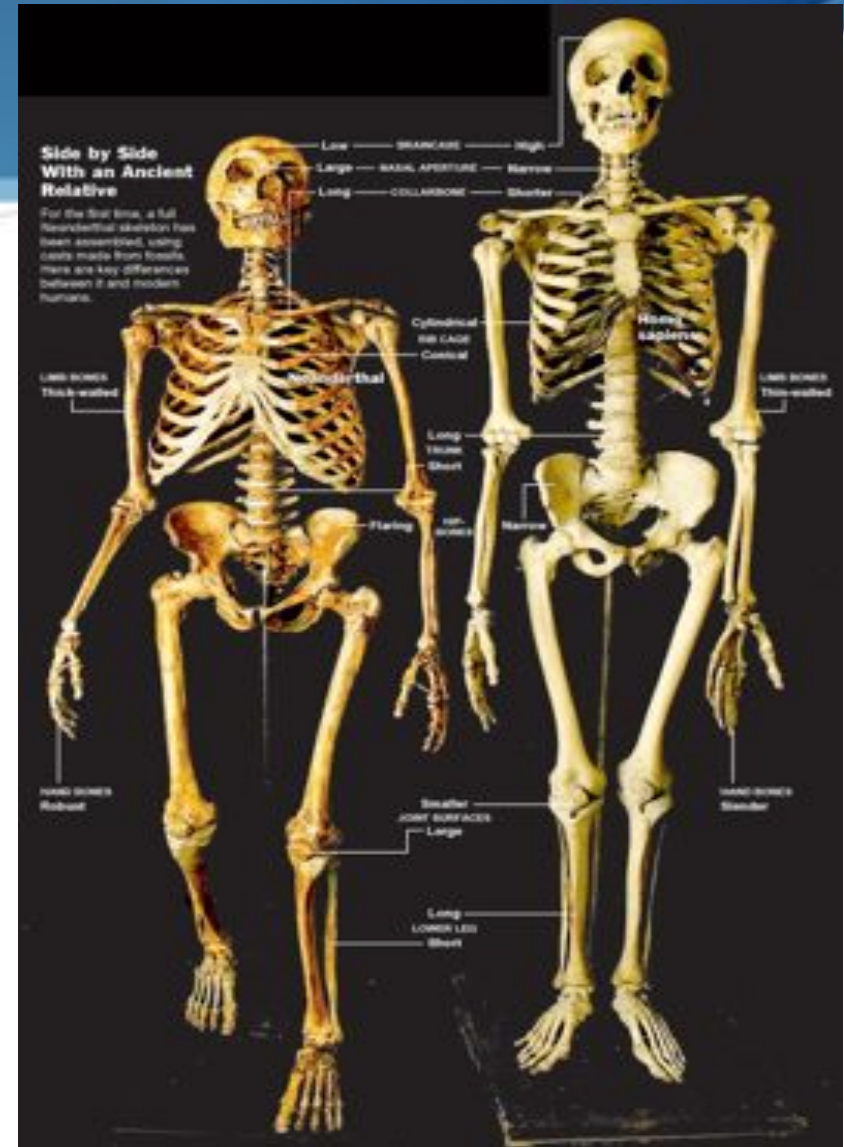
The Neanderthals

- 🟢 Lived between 100 000 and 40 000 years ago
- 🟢 Very powerful people
- 🟢 Physical appearance tell us that they are not human beings like today
- 🟢 Differences????????



The Neanderthals

- Average height of 160 cm (5'2")
- Weight of 73kg (160lbs)
- Arms and legs are stubby (forearms are lower and legs shorter)

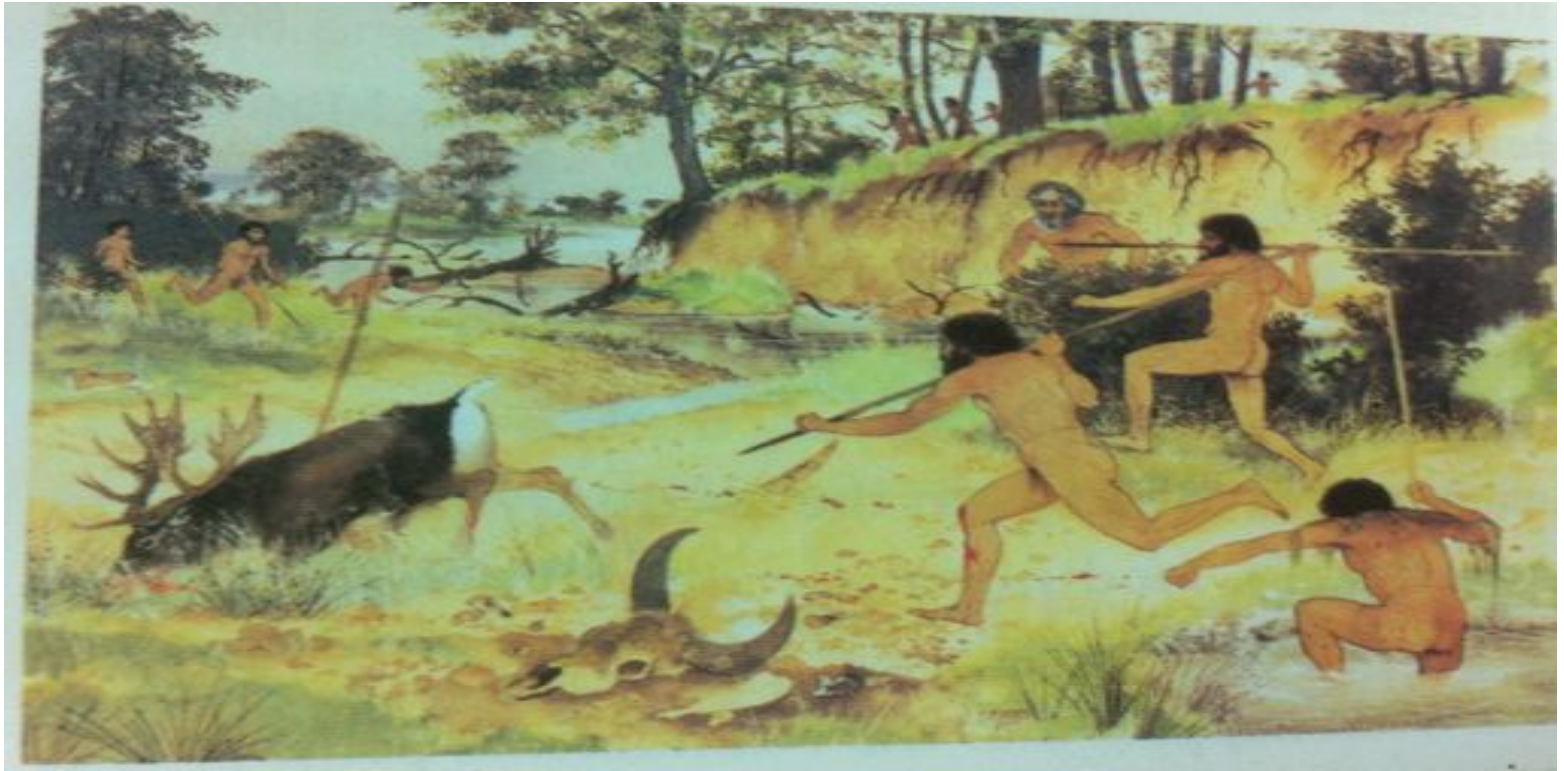


Neanderthals



Neanderthal Society ?

💧 Role of the male



Neanderthal Society?

- ◆ Day to day
- ◆ Living Arrangements
- ◆ Mating rituals
- ◆ Within small Neanderthal groups, there was no formal leadership and no rules or laws that people were expected to follow

Neanderthal Society?

- ◆ Scavengers
- ◆ Females and children spent their time



Neanderthal Society?

- 💧 Why would the role of the woman be so important?
- 💧 Uncertainty of the hunt
- 💧 Skeletal remains show stresses of a difficult life
- 💧 Most children died during childbirth or in the first few years of their life

Neanderthal Society?

- 💧 80% of adults died before the age of 40
- 💧 Few ways to make life easier, relied on strength

What happened to the Neanderthals?

- ◆ Quite likely demise came at hands of Homo Sapiens Sapiens (from Africa)
- ◆ Had better weapons and tools, produces of their superior intelligence

What happened to the Neanderthals?



What happened to the Neanderthals?

- Could they have assimilated with the homo sapiens sapiens?

Cranial features of Modern Man and Neanderthal compared



Review....Recall....Reflect

- ◆ Pg. 31 Questions # 1-2
- ◆ Fill Out Timeline Chart

The Great Leap Forward

- 💧 35 000 years ago “The Great Leap Forward” began
- 💧 Two fundamental changes occurred:
 - 1) The Development of modern anatomy
 - 2) Beginning of innovative behaviour

The Great Leap Forward

- ◆ Production of crafted tools and more sophisticated weapons



The Great Leap Forward

- 💧 Development of trade for raw materials and ornaments
- 💧 Emergence of sculptures, paintings and crafted objects that showcased beauty and religion